

WASHINGTON COUNTY (UTAH). COUNTY RECORDER ^[1325]

ABSTRACTS (MINES), 1875- [ongoing]

5 microfilm reels

DESCRIPTION: The Washington County recorder kept an abstract of mining claims. For each claim (or mill site) he made a chronological list of official activity. These actions include, but are not limited to, notices of location, proof of labor, deeds conveying interest or part interest to another party, and leases. The recorder generally began keeping an abstract when some official action involved the claim subsequent to original recording of location notice. In this record he included the name of the claim, the names of locators, and identified a mining district. He indicated the date of original location and where and when the notice was recorded. In the list of actions involving the claim, he included the names of grantee and grantor, the kind of instrument (or action), dates for recording and possibly additional details.

The recorder kept some early records in Abstract Letter Book A. These abstracts include the name of a mining claim, names of claimants, deeds and recording dates, and detail about the location of the claim followed by a chronology of all conveyances relating to that claim. This book contains abstracts for mines owned by the Christy Mining Company of Silver Reef. From 1884 to 1907 the recorder filed out preprinted forms designed for abstracts, and then included transcripts of original documents, apparently documenting the abstracts. Where designated, the documents in this book relate to claims in the Harrisburg Mining District.

At the same time, he began Abstract Record of Mines A, then Abstract Record of Mines B, in which he recorded location information followed by a chronological list of subsequent actions for the several mining districts in Washington County. Mining Abstracts C through C 5 are continuations of Abstract Record of Mines A and B.

ARRANGEMENT: In general the mining claims abstracts are ordered as they were

originally created. However, abstracts in Mining Abstracts C are organized in alphabetical sections based on the name of the claim, with page numbering beginning anew for each letter. Also, in Mining Abstracts C 4, the recorder skipped pages between each entry, and then, when the book was full, went back and filled in the blank pages. Every other page begins with a 1954 or 1955 entry followed by a much later entry. In most cases, the abstracts did not fill up a page, but when they did they were generally carried forward on the next available blank page. Notes on the pages identify where such pages were carried from and to.

RESEARCH NOTE: The county recorder originally began using the book which is now Abstract Record of Mines Book B as an abstract for town site land in Saint George, Washington City and Leeds. He made sections for each town site, and for each action indicated the kind of deed, the date and method of payment, whether cash, meat, or scrip. When he later began a new system for land abstracts, he lined out these pages and used the blank paper following each section to begin recording mining abstracts. Abstract Record of Mines Books A and B sustained significant termite or rodent damage before filming, and many pages of Book B are faded and difficult to read. The original abstract letter book also contains many blurred and faded pages.

Pages 308-310 of the letter book contain a list of the corporations whose articles had been recorded in Washington County before 1885.

Abstract Record Books C 1 through C 5 were filled out on preprinted pages designed for mining abstracts. Abstract Record Book C is superimposed on a grantee index book, so the preprinted pages do not match the use to which they were put. Usually the top of the page has been crossed out and the name of the mine claim or mill site has been written in. Frequently the columns for grantee and grantor are reversed and crossed out, and remarks are in the description column. Also the index at the beginning of each letter is simply superimposed upon a preprinted page which has no relevance to it. When reading these pages, it is helpful to remember that the recorder used the name of the mining claim as the original grantor.

RELATED RECORDS: Official documents referred to in these abstracts are primarily found in MINING NOTICES OF LOCATION, series 81372; MINING PROOF OF LABOR, series 23671; MINING DEEDS, series 23669; AGREEMENTS AND LEASES, series 84209; and OFFICIAL RECORDS, series 7067. Early documents are also found in DEEDS (SILVER REEF), series 23263 ; DEEDS (PINE VALLEY), series 23264; DEEDS (TOQUERVILLE), series 23265; Tutsagubet Mining District MINING RECORDS, series 23690; and the Harrisburg Mining District MINING RECORDS, series 23675. ABSTRACTS (SECTIONAL LAND), series 16432, chronologically document all activity for each section of land in Washington County. A few MINING PLATS, series 23680, delineate the boundaries of mining claims. MINING NOTICES INDEX (1906-1914), series 6151, provides access to the mining abstracts by the name of the claimant. MINING CLAIMS INDEXES, series 23730, index recent abstracts by claim name, by locator name, and also identify patented claims.

PROCESSING NOTE: Early Washington County mining abstracts books were microfilmed by Utah State Archives in August 1982. Mining Abstracts C was microfilmed in April 1984; Mining Abstracts C 1, in April 1988; and Mining Abstracts C 2 through C 5 were microfilmed in February 1994. As part of processing earlier copies of Mining Abstracts of Books C 1 through C 4 were deaccessioned. This series was processed through the February 1994 filming by Rosemary Cundiff in May 2001.

PREFERRED CITATION: Cite the Utah State Archives and Records Service, the creating agency name, the series title, and the series number.

CONTAINER LIST

Reel	Description
1	Abstract Record of Mines A (1875-ongoing)
2	Abstract letter book (1876-1908)
2	Abstract Record of Mines B (1876-ongoing)
3	Mining Abstracts C (c 1890-ongoing)
4	Mining Abstracts C 1 (1908-ongoing)
5	Mining Abstracts C 2 (1943-ongoing)
5	Mining Abstracts C 3 (1954-ongoing)
5	Mining Abstracts C 4 (1956-ongoing)
5	Mining Abstracts C 5 (1984-ongoing)